

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

RESOURCES AGENCY SALTON SEA COMMITTEE INAUGURAL MEETING SET FOR JANUARY 20

SACRAMENTO – Secretary for Resources Mike Chrisman today announced the inaugural meeting of the Resources Agency Salton Sea Advisory Committee, bringing together representatives of federal, state and local agencies, and non-governmental groups to cooperate on efforts to restore the Salton Sea ecosystem.

WHEN: Tuesday, January 20, 2004
10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Golden State Museum
Large Classroom
1020 O Street
Sacramento, CA

The January 20 meeting will include a review of the 2003 legislation on Colorado River Quantification Settlement Agreement/Salton Sea restoration and an overview of Salton Sea fish and wildlife resources and issues.

State legislation enacted in 2003 established a State policy for restoring the Salton Sea as part of California's effort to live within its interstate apportionment of Colorado River water. The Resources Agency's Salton Sea Advisory Committee is an important public advisory body in advancing that effort.

The Salton Sea, a terminal desert lake in Riverside and Imperial counties, is sustained chiefly by agricultural runoff from surrounding farmland and has no drainage. The Salton Sea supports a highly productive fishery and more than 400 species of resident and nonresident birds in a key wintering area of the Pacific Flyway, but through concentration and evaporation of salts is becoming too saline to support its present fish and bird population.

The Resources Agency's Salton Sea Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled a day before a special Salton Sea Conference, co-sponsored by the Water Education Foundation and the State Department of Water Resources, on January 21 at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza at 300 J Street in Sacramento. Information on that day long event can be obtained by contacting the Water Education Foundation at (916) 444-6240 or on the Web at www.watereducation.org

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